

# CAREER FACT SHEET

## **Speech Professionals and Audiologists**

## Snapshot

Speech Professionals and Audiologists provide diagnostic assessment and rehabilitation services related to human hearing defects, and assess and treat people with communication disorders and physical problems associated with eating and swallowing.

How many are employed in this occupation?	17,700
What are the average weekly earnings for full time workers?	\$1,654
How does unemployment compare with other occupations?	Below Average
What are the job prospects for this occupation?	Medium
What will be the likely future employment growth for the next five years?	Very Strong Growth

### Main employing industries

Health Care and Social Assistance; Public Administration and Safety

### Tasks

This occupation may include associated occupations with varying tasks.

- administering and interpreting a wide range of audiometric tests to determine hearing efficiency and locate sites of detected hearing problems
- interpreting audiometric test results alongside other medical, social and behavioural diagnostic data
- evaluating total response pattern and acoustic tests to distinguish between organic and non-organic hearing loss
- planning, directing and participating in counselling, speech reading and other rehabilitation programs
- prescribing appropriate hearing aids and instructing patients in use
- administering tests and observing patients to determine nature and extent of disorders
- planning and conducting programs of remedial exercise to correct disorders such as stuttering and abnormal articulation
- administering individual and group therapy for rehabilitation of patients with communication problems caused by defective hearing, cerebral palsy, surgery and injury
- advising on treatment for children with difficulties in learning to speak
- counselling and guiding language-handicapped individuals, their families, teachers and employers

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# INDUSTRY OVERVIEW

## Health Care and Social Assistance

Are you interested in helping people improve their health? Do you enjoy caring for others? Perhaps you would like to assist people experiencing a disability, or are keen to get involved in the wellness industry. If you are intrigued by these possibilities, a job in the Health Care and Social Assistance sector may be for you. The Health Care and Social Assistance industry encompasses a diversity of occupations, ranging from fields such as dental hygiene, optometry, pharmacy, disability services, mental health and aged-care, to fitness training, sports science, lifestyle coaching and nutrition. The Health Training Package offers over 75 Vocational and Training (VET) qualifications, so if you're interested in health you'll probably find an occupation and qualification to suit you! Don't forget it's possible to begin your Health Care and Social Assistance career by training for VET qualifications to start with before possibly working your way up to a University Degree. The Health Care and Social Assistance sector has



Health Care and Social Assistance

experienced strong growth in the last ten years, making it one of Australia's largest employers and the growth is forecast to continue, so jobs in this industry are expected to be plentiful.

#### Possible job pathways

- Anaesthetists
- Ambulance Officers and Paramedics
- Chiropractors and Osteopaths
- Complementary Health Therapists
- Dental Assistants
- Dental Practitioners
- Dental Hygienists, Technicians and Therapists
- Dieticians
- Generalist Medical Practitioners
- Health Information Managers
- Indigenous Health Workers
- Internal Medicine Specialists

- Massage Therapists
- Medical Imaging Professionals
- Medical Laboratory Scientists
- Medical Technicians
- Midwives
- Nurses (Enrolled and
- Mothercraft Nurses)

  Nursing Managers
- Optometrists and Orthoptists
- Other Medical Practitioners
- Podiatrists

- Pharmacists
- Physiotherapists
- Practice Managers
- Psychiatrists
- Psychologists
- Nurse Educators and Researchers
- Registered Nurses
- Speech Professionals
- Speech Professional and Audiologists
- Photographic Developers and Printers
- Aged and Disabled Carers

- Counsellors
- Diversional Therapists
- Health and Welfare
   Services Managers
- Nursing Support and Personal Care Workers
- Occupational Therapists
- Social Workers
- Special Care Workers
- Welfare Support Workers
- Welfare, Recreation and Community Arts Workers

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